DAVID G. ESPLIN:

a commemorative exhibition

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library - University of Toronto

March 28 - May 11, 1984

DAVID G. ESPLIN

1925 - 1983

A COMMEMORATIVE EXHIBITION

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THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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INTRODUCTION

David Esplin arrived at the University of Toronto Library in January 1966 to take up the position of Assistant Librarian for Book Selection. When the administration of the library was re-organized in 1969 he became an Associate Librarian and, except for a few occasions when he acted as Chief Librarian, spent the rest of his career in that position.

David Esplin's primary responsibility upon his arrival was clear. He was to build a research collection of books and manuscripts to support the scholarly aspirations of the re-vitalized and burgeoning School of Graduate Studies. The Williams Report of 1962 had revealed that in all the universities of Canada, only one collection in a general subject field, apart from Canadiana, was capable of supporting research at the post-doctoral level: the Medieval Studies collection at the Pontifical Institute. The implications of the Williams Report were to provide David Esplin with a tremendous challenge: to say that he rose to that challenge is a considerable understatement.

David Esplin came to Toronto with unusual but important qualifications for his new position. He was born in Dunedin, New Zealand in 1925 and educated at the University of Otago. From 1952 to 1962 he held several positions at the University of Otago Library and during the year 1959 spent a sabbatical year in England. Many of the contacts he made, both in Britain and in Europe, were to prove invaluable. In 1962 he moved to Los Angeles to become the English language bibliographer at the UCLA library and actively participated in the large-scale collecting programme initiated by Lawrence Clark Powell and Robert Vosper. For five months in 1964/65 he returned to Great Britain and Europe to visit antiquarian booksellers and to buy books for UCLA. From this experience the University of Toronto was to reap the greatest benefits.

David Esplin was both a bibliographer and a bibliophile. His taste as a private collector and as a collector for institutions was formed at the University of Otago where, early in his career, he was given the opportunity to closely examine and catalogue a large collection of early printed books with special strength in seventeenth-century English material. He learned to appreciate books and manuscripts for the research value of their texts but also recognized that the other physical attributes of the book (type, paper and binding) could also be of great importance to the scholar. At the same time he stressed usefulness and viewed every potential acquisition with a practical eye. His personal collection, which is represented in one case in this exhibition, was rich in late seventeenth-century English books and pamphlets published by Richard Chiswell, whose career David had studied closely; eighteenth-century English literature (he particularly enjoyed the bibliographical complexities of the works of Pope); and the history of printing, publishing and bookselling. His basic understanding of what constitutes a research collection was reflected by his own library but also informed his vision of the development of the vast and various collections of the University Library.

This memorial exhibition, consisting of examples from twelve collections which David Esplin was responsible for acquiring, is necessarily limited. These are all collections which reside in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and thus they only represent in the most general way the hundreds of thousands of books, from virtually every subject field, acquired for the main research collections. Indeed, the books and manuscripts exhibited only represent a fraction of what arrived at the Fisher Library between 1966 and 1982. Some indication, however,of the true measure of David's achievement can be seen by the range of material exhibited. The scope of the collections which includes such disparate subjects as English theological history, Canadian literary manuscripts, the Scottish Enlightenment, the history of medicine, Rousseau, and Yellowbacks, is breathtaking.

Upon arriving at U. of T. David began to cultivate the strong links with teaching departments which ultimately provided the general support necessary to build a great research library. He made it clear, however, that the development of the collections was the responsibility of the librarians. The Book Selection Department, which he created, assumed the primary role in collection development utilizing, of course, the specialized subject knowledge to be found in all parts of the University. One of the best examples of how faculty and library cooperation, opportunity in the market-place, money, and a little bit of luck could be brought together to create a research collection of international importance is the History of Science collections. The Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology was in its formative years when David arrived. The Director wrote to the Library asking what research resources were available and what sort of commitment would be required to support research at all levels. A survey of the existing collection was undertaken and revealed, to no one's surprise, that, with a few exceptions, the collection was woefully inadequate. The Library replied to the Institute that it would undertake to develop collections in the history of science but a major financial commitment from the University was necessary. The support was forthcoming and from a variety of sources the books began to flow in. The Library was fortunate to have on deposit from 1967 the outstanding collection of Stillman Drake, from which it has subsequently acquired many of the most important scientific works of the Renaissance. Special collections of Aristotle, Bacon, Galileo, Einstein, and Darwin were acquired; the scientific revolution as reflected in the works of members of the Royal society, especially Boyle, Newton and Hooke, became a focal point; natural history and the history of medicine were developed as research strengths; and gradually the collections assumed a major importance. Since the history of science had not yet become a popular area of collecting, there was ample opportunity to acquire many rare items. The collection began to be used, not only by the students and faculty of the University of Toronto, but also by a growing number of scholars from other institutions and other countries.

By no means all the books and manuscripts were purchased. David Esplin actively encouraged donations and was directly involved in most of the major gifts which have been so important to the growth of the collections.

David Esplin did not accomplish the tremendous development of these collections alone. He was given the active support and encouragement of the

Chief Librarian, Robert Blackburn, and of the University administration. His colleagues in the Book Selection Department, many of whom he hired, provided the expertise and dedication to carry out the selection policies and other members of the library staff, from many different departments, participated in the process.

This exhibition illustrates something of the effect that one man, in the right circumstances, can have on a large and complex institution. The exhibition and the catalogue which accompanies it seem particularly appropriate as a recognition and celebration of the career of David Esplin. It would please him, I think, to know that one of the few gaps in the Darwin Collection has just been filled.

Richard Landon
March 1984

CASE I: SCOTTISH ENLIGHTENMENT

In 1967-68 David Esplin negotiated the purchase of a large collection of books covering all aspects of Scottish intellectual life in the eighteenth century from the firm of K.D. Duval in Falkland, Fifeshire. This collection was notable not only for the important works it contained, in first and early editions, but also for the very fine condition and interesting provenance of the copies. Many of the books were in contemporary bindings, and a number were presentation copies or came from distinguished libraries. Purchases from the same dealers in 1969, 1970, and 1974 further enriched the Library's holdings.

Philosophy was well represented by first and other important editions of David Hume and his predecessors and contemporaries, Francis Hutcheson, James Beattie, Thomas Reid, and Dugald Stewart, and in its broader eighteenth-century sense by Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations (1776) and Adam Ferguson's less well known, but very influential Essay on the History of Civil Society (1767). The collection included many historical works, both the general studies of David Hume and William Robertson and more specialized local and family histories. An important group concerned the Marian controversy, the re-evaluation of Mary Queen of Scots launched by Walter Goodall in 1754. Antiquarian works included Francis Grose's Antiquities of Scotland (1789-91), in which Burns' "Tam o' Shanter" was first published. In the field of church history were Robert Wodrow's History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland (1721-22) and a set of the Acts of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland covering the years 1691 to 1815.

Education was represented by the writings of Elizabeth Hamilton and Andrew Bell, founder of the Madras system. The two works by Bell were bound for presentation to the Prince Regent. A number of editions of the classics, notably the four-volume Homer of 1756-58, demonstrated the fine printing of Robert and Andrew Foulis, printers to the University of Glasgow. Medical and scientific works included William Cullen's Synopsis Nosologiae Methodicae (several editions) and William Smellie's Philosophy of Natural History (1790-99). In the field of agricultural improvement, a subject of great importance in eighteenth-century Scotland, were books by the writers James Anderson and Sir John Sinclair.

With the first purchase the Library acquired a copy of the highly prized Kilmarnock Burns (1786), as well as both issues of the first Edinburgh edition, the first London, and several later editions of Scotland's most famous poet. His predecessors, Allan Ramsay and Robert Fergusson, were also well represented. Other literary figures included James Boswell, John Home, Henry Mackenzie, John Moore, Tobias Smollett, and James Thomson. An important group of books related to the Ossian controversy -- editions of James Macpherson's own works and some of the many critical studies they provoked. In the field of folk literature were several anthologies of Scots ballads and songs and a nineteenth-century manuscript copy of the important collection of Gaelic poetry made by Duncan Kennedy between 1774 and 1783 and still largely unpublished.

Items displayed:

Sir John Sinclair. The Statistical Account of Scotland. Edinburgh: W. Creech, 1791-99. 21 v.

----------. Specimen of the Statistical Account of Scotland. Edinburgh, 1791.

Sir John Sinclair (1754-1835), landowner, member of Parliament, and first president of the Board of Agriculture, devoted his long life to the improvement of economic conditions in Scotland. A prolific writer on many subjects, he is now chiefly remembered as the compiler of the twenty-one-volume Statistical Account of Scotland. Each of the more than nine hundred ministers of the Church of Scotland was requested to contribute, and then was repeatedly begged and cajoled into reporting on his own parish. The Specimen, prepared for the meeting of the General Assembly in 1791, contains four sample reports from the forthcoming first volume and was intended to encourage other ministers to send in their own reports. The term "statistical" is used in its original broader sense of "information useful to the state." A lengthy questionnaire provided by Sinclair elicited such information as the situation and extent of the parish, climate, soil, minerals, food production and crops, population, wages and prices, roads, and "advantages and disadvantages." Prepared just before large-scale emigration and the effects of the industrial revolution were to change Scotland profoundly, the Statistical Account provides historians with a description of the country that is unique in Europe.

James Macpherson. Fragments of Ancient Poetry, Collected in the Highlands of Scotland, and Translated from the Galic or Erse Language. Edinburgh: G. Hamilton and J. Balfour, 1760.

James Macpherson (1736-1796) published the first of his celebrated "translations" of ancient Gaelic poetry in 1760, launching a controversy that was to rage for more than fifty years. Fragments of Ancient Poetry was followed by Fingal in 1761 and Temora in 1763, all presented as the work of the third-century warrior poet Ossian. The Edinburgh literati, influenced both by nationalism and by their complete ignorance of their own heritage, greeted them with uncritical praise, claiming Ossian the equal of Homer or Virgil. But elsewhere their authenticity was questioned, many critics doubting the existence of any poetic tradition in the Gaelic language. A report prepared by the Highland Society in 1805 stated what is essentially the modern view, that Macpherson's work was a very free translation of surviving fragments, altered and adapted to suit eighteenth-century taste. Nevertheless, the "Ossian" poems were enormously popular in Britain and Europe; their themes of primitive life, wild lonely places, and the power of nature anticipated the Romantic movement and paved the way for the nineteenth-century fascination with the Scottish Highlands. The controversy also had the beneficial effect of stimulating the collection and preservation of surviving Gaelic poetry and folklore in oral and manuscript form.

Robert Burns. Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect. Kilmarnock: Printed by J. Wilson, 1786.

Six hundred and twelve copies were printed of the Kilmarnock Burns, one of the most famous of all first editions, and it was sold out in just over a month. It turned an unknown farmer from Ayrshire into one of the most celebrated figures in Scotland. A second edition, published in Edinburgh the following year, was over-subscribed and three thousand copies in all were printed. Frequently portrayed as a talented, but untaught peasant, Burns was very much a product of the Enlightenment. Well educated and widely read, he was fully aware of the new ideas in philosophy, politics, and literature. The popularity of his more sentimental poetry has tended to obscure his true importance as a satirical observer of human life and foibles.

Adam Smith. An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations. London: W. Strahan and T. Cadell, 1776. 2 v.

The Wealth of Nations, "the first and greatest classic of modern economic thought," is one of the most famous products of the Scottish Enlightenment. Adam Smith (1723-1790) taught jurisprudence and rhetoric in Edinburgh and moral philosophy at the University of Glasgow until a pension from the Duke of Buccleuch, whose tutor he had been, enabled him to devote his time to writing. Many of the ideas presented in The Wealth of Nations were not new, but they were systematized for the first time and were presented with clarity and wit and a broad understanding of human nature. His talent for pithy aphorisms, as well as his underlying philosophy, is suggested in a sentence such as, "It is not from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer, or the baker that we expect our dinner but from their regard to their self-interest."

Walter Goodall. An Examination of the Letters, Said to Be Written by Mary Queen of Scots, to James Earl of Bothwell. Edinburgh: T. and W. Ruddimans, 1754.

Walter Goodall (1706?-1766) was the first historian to challenge the widely held view that the "casket letters" were authentic and that Mary Queen of Scots was an accomplice in the murder of her second husband, Lord Darnley. His Examination inaugurated a new and more critical era in historical writing about this tragic monarch. Goodall is also remembered for his edition of John of Fordun's Scotichronicon (1759), the great fourteenth-century source book for early Scottish history; his English translation of the Scotichronicon was published after his death.

David Hume. Essays, Moral and Political. The second edition, corrected. Edinburgh: A. Kincaid, 1742. 2v.

An early work by David Hume (1711-1776), one of the giants of the Enlightenment, this collection was, like the more famous Treatise of Human Nature (1739-40), published anonymously. Although Hume was regarded with great affection by his many friends in Scotland, his philosophical views caused much controversy in his own day, preventing him from obtaining an appointment in the universities. His contemporaries regarded him primarily

as an historian; his six-volume History of England (1754-62) went through many editions. The opposing "common sense" school of philosophy, led by Thomas Reid, was more influential in the nineteenth century, and it has not been until the twentieth century that Hume's importance as a philosopher has been fully appreciated.

This copy of the Essays bears the signature of Patrick Murray, 5th Lord Elibank (1703-1778), a close friend of Hume's, and it may have been a gift from the author.

Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. The History and Statutes of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. Edinburgh: Printed by Balfour and Smellie, 1778.

The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh was established in the 1720s by the Royal College of Physicians to provide medical care for the poor. This handsome building, designed by William Adam, father of the celebrated architect Robert Adam, was begun in 1738. Among the Infirmary's managers was the distinguished teacher of medicine William Cullen (1710-1790). Cullen was instrumental in the founding of the Glasgow Medical School, and he held successively the chairs of medicine in the University of Glasgow, and chemistry and medicine in Edinburgh. Unlike his predecessors he lectured in English from his own notes rather than from a set text, and he gave clinical lectures in the Infirmary, a practice almost unknown at the time.

This copy of The History and Statutes of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh was presented by the managers to Sir James Montgomery (1721-1803), Lord Chief Baron of the Scottish Exchequer.

Joseph Black. Letter to George Dempster of Skibo, sending an analysis of samples of limestone from Sutherland and suggesting ways of refining it. 1792.

Joseph Black (1728-1799) studied medicine under William Cullen, who early recognized his ability and made him his assistant. Black's research for his thesis on magnesia alba led to the discovery of carbon dioxide or "fixed air," as he called it. His work on the evaporation of water, begun in the 1750s and culminating in his discovery of specific heat, was to provide the impetus for the experiments of his protégé, James Watt, into steam power. Black himself published little, but his very popular lectures on chemistry were reconstructed and published after his death by John Robison, using his notes and those of his students.

This letter is from the papers of George Dempster (1732-1818), acquired by the Library in 1969. Dempster, the son of a wealthy Dundee merchant and a member of the Faculty of Advocates, belonged to the celebrated Poker Club, where his friends included David Hume, Adam Ferguson, William Robertson, and Alexander "Jupiter" Carlyle. In 1762 he was elected to Parliament, and he was to hold his seat for nearly thirty years. Like Sir John Sinclair, a good friend with whom he corresponded regularly, he was much concerned with economic conditions in Scotland and worked to improve its agriculture and fisheries. Black's letter begins with a well deserved tribute: "It gives me pleasure to obey your commands as the object of them is always the improvement of the Country & public good."

E. Hulse.

CASE II: ROUSSEAU COLLECTION

The study of eighteenth century France has long been a tradition at this University with particular attention being paid to the group known as "les Philosophes". This interest is reflected in the Library's holdings of the works of Diderot, Helvétius, d'Alembert and Voltaire. Rousseau, however, was not well represented, and when in 1971 the California bookseller, Jake Zeitlin, offered the Library a choice collection of material by and relating to Rousseau, David Esplin seized the opportunity to acquire it. The collection, put together by the Parisian bookdealer, Georges Heilbrun, included not only books and pamphlets, but also portraits, statues, medallions, manuscripts, including notes for a book on women in history, and portfolios of illustrations designed for specific editions of Rousseau's works. Among the highlights of the collection were various editions of Émile, including many piracies and unauthorized printings and a specially bound volume of the 1781 edition with two sets of the engravings designed by G.M. Moreau le jeune and eight original pen and sepia drawings by C.F. Chauvet. Other outstanding items included the lavish thirty-eight volume Oeuvres published in 1788-93, with a separate portfolio of eighty-two plates by contemporary artists, and two books from Rousseau's own library. One of these, Daïra by A.J.J. Le Riche de la Pouplinière printed in 1760 in an edition of less than thirty copies, bears an inscription on its fly-leaf from the author to Rousseau.

Jean Jacques Rousseau was born in Geneva on June 25, 1712. His mother died at his birth, and his early years were unsettled. His father took very little interest in him beyond teaching him how to read, using Plutarch's Letters and seventeenth century French romances as his texts. These influences remained with him, and to the end Rousseau worshipped the heroic and romantic. He was subjected to very little formal education, and at the age of sixteen he left home. For the next twenty years he led the life of a vagabond. The greatest influence during this period was provided by Madame de Warens who eventually adopted him as her protégé. Through her he developed his interest in music and because of her he was able to indulge in his love of reading and to study seriously for the first time.

By 1741 Rousseau was in Paris, trying to persuade the Académie des Sciences to credit him with the discovery of a new system of musical notation. The paper was read, but not recommended, and without a recommendation he was unable to obtain students. He did have some contacts in the city, and through one of them, the Dupin family, he was able to secure a position as secretary to the French ambassador at Venice. Later he became secretary/researcher to Madame Dupin who was assembling material for a history book on women. The book was never written, but his notes and her comments have come down to us, and samples are on display. At the same time he renewed his friendship with Diderot and his literary friends, found time to produce the opera, Les Muses galantes, and to copy music for money. Diderot, who employed him to write the articles on music for his Encyclopédie, was probably responsible for awakening his interest in philosophical and social problems.

It was not until 1750 that Rousseau's name became known to a wider audience. That year the Dijon Academy offered a prize for the best essay on the effects of the progress of civilization upon morals. Rousseau's attempt

developed a theme on the superiority of the savage state. It was not especially well written and was full of inconsistencies, but the boldness of the ideas convinced the Academy to award him the prize. His premise that society or civilization had corrupted man's native goodness was to initiate a new age of inquiry, of experimentation and reform.

In 1752 Rousseau produced the opera, Le Devin du village, at Fontainebleau which was so successful that he was ordered to present himself at court. Either through shyness or perversity, he refused and lost the pension that would have been offered him.

The next year the comedy Narcisse, a popular work on music, and another essay for the Dijon Academy kept his name before the public; but it was becoming increasingly clear that life in Paris had an unsettling effect on him. A new patroness, Madame d'Epinay, offered him a cottage near Montmorency where he moved in 1756. For the next six years he lived in semi-retirment, breaking off his contacts with Diderot and other Parisian friends and eventually even with Madame d'Epinay. In 1758 Rousseau moved to another village, a few miles away. Here at Montlouis he took up work on La Nouvelle Héloise which he had begun at Montmorency, and also wrote an attack on Voltaire, d'Alembert and the French stage. This Lettre à d'Alembert contre les spectacles marked the end of his relationship with the "Philosophes".

Within the next two years La Nouvelle Héloise, Du Contrat social and Émile appeared. All three were immediate successes; the lyrical love story set in the Swiss Alps, the anti-monarchist treatise on government, and the pedagogical novel delighted the public, although not the authorities. On June 11, 1762, Émile was condemned by the Parliament of Paris. Rousseau, having previously been warned of his impending arrest, was able to escape to Switzerland.

After three years in Switzerland, Rousseau was offered asylum in England where he began to write Les Confessions. By the spring of 1767, he had fallen out with his benefactor, David Hume, and decided to return to France. Taking an assumed name and living with the help of friends, he moved from town to town, until finally in the summer of 1770, he felt it safe to return to Paris. This time the city brought him contentment. He was able to finish his autobiography and start the reflective Rêveries du promeneur solitaire as well as write a variety of minor works. By late 1777, however, the paranoia that had always been a part of his life increased and forced him to leave once more. Friends found him a cottage near Ermonville to which he moved in the spring of 1778, and where on July 2 he died.

The works produced by Rousseau were few but extremely influential. His ideas on government inspired the leaders of the French Revolution; his lyrical descriptions of nature and human emotions influenced the writers of the "Romantic" generation, while the ideas in Émile sowed the seeds of modern educational movements.

Items displayed:

"Sonata a due violini e basso. Basso." Music copied by Rousseau and initialed by him in lower right hand corner.

Holograph notes compiled from a variety of sources for Madame Dupin's projected history of women.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Discours qui a remporté le prix à l'Academie de Dijon. Geneve: Barillot, 1750. The first edition of the work that established Rousseau's reputation as a philosopher.

----------. Le Devin du village. Paris, 1773. First performed at court in 1752, this operetta met with enormous success.

----------. Lettres de deux amans. Amsterdam: M.M. Rey, 1761. First edition of the work that later became known as La Nouvelle Héloise.

----------. Du Contrat social. Amsterdam: M.M. Rey, 1762. One of a great many pirated editions. The imprint is spurious.

----------. Émile. La Haye: J. Néaulme, 1762. This first edition in octavo was actually printed in Paris for the publisher Duchesne.

Paris. Parlement. Arrest de la Cour de Parlement. [Paris: P.G. Simon, 1762]. The official condemnation of Émile, chiefly for religious reasons.

Holograph statement about pirated and unauthorized editions of Rousseau's works. Written on January 23, 1774, it appeared the following month in the Gazette de la littérature, des sciences et de arts.

A.J.J. Le Riche de La Pouplinière. Daïra. Paris: C.F. Simon, 1760. Author's presentation copy to J.J. Rousseau.

L. Hussel.

CASE III: ENGLISH LITERATURE

David Esplin's personal library reflected his knowledge and love of English literature, especially the works of the eighteenth century. It is not surprising that some of the earliest significant acquisitions which he made for the Library were first editions of English classics. Staff in the Fisher Library still remember the excitement caused by the arrival, early in the spring of 1966, of the first edition of Jane Austen's novel, Emma, its three volumes in original boards and its condition as fine as though it had been published the previous year instead of in 1816. The purchase of such items had always before seemed outside the Rare Book Department's grasp. Its English literature holdings in the early sixties were largely the result of past donations and lucky finds, with some shrewd acquisitions in areas still relatively uncollected and thus under-priced. Emma's arrival signalled the beginning of a new era and the initiation of a programme to fill in wherever possible the gaps in the English literature collection. Emma's appearance also illustrated the concern of a bookman and bibliographer for fine condition and original bindings. Other first editions of Jane Austen's novels followed: Sense and Sensibility; Pride and Prejudice; and the posthumously published, four-volume set containing both Persuasion and Northanger Abbey, all in fine condition and all acquired in David Esplin's first year at the University of Toronto. Even before the arrival of Emma, however, the acquisition in January 1966 of a pristine copy of Dickens' Little Dorrit in twenty paper parts as originally issued in 1857, had served notice that the Library was about to embark on a new and much expanded acquisition programme and had secured a man who could take full advantage of the opportunity provided.

Exciting as the arrivals of first editions like Emma and Little Dorrit were, undoubtedly the rarest acquisition, and the most notable in David Esplin's first few months at the Library, was a copy of William Blake's earliest printed work: Poetical Sketches, issued in 1783. Publication of these early poems had been arranged by the Reverend A.S. Mathew and by the artist, John Flaxman, as a gesture of their admiration and regard for the unknown poet and as an attempt to make his work better known. All the copies printed were given to Blake to sell or give to his friends. Blake seems to have taken little interest in the project, however, giving away only ten copies during his lifetime. At his death a number remained in his possession, many in the uncut and unstitched sheets in which he had received them from the printer. Subsequently some of the sheets in the last three quires must have been accidentally damaged, since four copies were later bound with the last three signatures reproduced in facsimile. The Library's copy, identified as copy 'K' in G.E. Bentley's bibliography, Blake Books (Oxford: 1977), is one of these. Only twenty-three copies of the work are now known.

Throughout the late sixties and into the seventies David Esplin continued to build the English literature holdings of the Library by the acquisition of individual literary rarities. An outstanding acquisition of 1968 was the second edition of John Donne's collected poems: Poems by J.D. with Elegies on the Author's Death (London: 1635). This edition, published two years after the first, contains thirty-seven additional poems attributed to Donne, of which seventeen are now considered to be his, and a fine portrait of the poet at the age of eighteen, engraved by W. Marshall. The Library's copy, in a beautiful design binding by Rivière, has a distinguished provenance, having

previously been in the libraries of book collectors Robert Hoe, Beverley Chew, and Charles C. Kalbfleisch.

David Esplin's preferred method of expanding the Library's holdings, however, was not by the individually selected and purchased item, but by the acquisition of entire large collections which had been assembled by private collectors or knowledgeable antiquarian booksellers. In the fall of 1968 Esplin was able to secure for the Library a particularly fine eighteenth-century Scottish collection containing a number of outstanding items, some of which are on display in another section of this exhibition. Perhaps the best known of the literary works acquired in this collection was James Boswell's Life of Samuel Johnson, first published in two volumes in 1791, and recognized then and now as a landmark in literary biography. The Library's copy of this first edition is in extraordinarily fine condition, uncut and in original boards.

As the eighteenth century and early nineteenth century literary holdings grew in strength and depth with the acquisition of several other large collections of books and pamphlets, the focus of collection building shifted to works published in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Rare Book Library had always actively collected works of the Anglo-Irish Renaissance, continuing to build on the fine collection centred on W.B. Yeats and his circle which had been a bequest from Dean A.T. DeLury in 1956. In 1969 a proposal was made to expand the collecting policy to include the works of all British and Anglo-Irish authors who were active between 1880 and 1930, a fifty year span sometimes described by literary critics as a "transition" period. The proposal was actively supported by David Esplin who set aside funds each year for staff to build "in depth", acquiring not merely first editions of the major writers, but all significant editions of all authors writing in this period, creating a bibliographical as well as a literary research collection.

One of the choicest collections of English literature acquired in the seventies included works by "transition" authors as well as earlier nineteenth century authors. This was the library assembled by Michael Holland, a knowledgeable and discerning British book collector. David Esplin purchased the library directly from the collector's son, David Holland, whom he knew personally, and who seems to have agreed on terms very advantageous to the Library -- a thirty-five percent discount in lieu of a bookseller's commission. In a letter to a friend who had been asked to help pack the collection, David Holland explained that "only a N. American university library would dream of buying 1890ish stuff 'in depth' so that, because I thought that my Father would have liked to see some of his collection preserved in one place, I have sold them to Toronto." Among the "1890ish stuff" were manuscripts and first editions of the English minor poet Ernest Dowson, a member of a nineties literary circle entitled the "Rhymers' Club" which also included in its membership Richard LeGalliene, Arthur Symons, and W.B. Yeats. Holland had met Dowson at Pont-Aven in France in 1896 and had heard him recite some of his then unpublished poems. He acquired the manuscripts of two of them, and later Dowson's own copy of Dilemmas, a collection of prose pieces published in 1895. Dowson appears to have carried this copy about with him on his restless wanderings in the last years of his life, jotting down on the fly leaf the places he visited together with the dates -- the only surviving record of his movements from 1895 to 1899. Michael Holland also owned a

particularly interesting copy of The Second Book of the Rhymers' Club (London: 1894) in which many of the original contributors have later written an autograph poem in the preliminary pages. Yeats accompanied his poem with a letter in which he explains that although the poem he has copied into the book is his most recent (ca. 1928), it seems to signal a return in mood to the nineties.

In addition to the Dowson material, Michael Holland's library contained many other outstanding items, often in several copies and always in fine condition. There were five copies of Matthew Arnold's allegedly very scarce first work, The Strayed Reveller (London: 1849) and three copies of his Empedocles on Etna (London: 1852). Both works were withdrawn by Arnold shortly after their publication and most copies are presumed to have been destroyed. Even more exciting was a copy of the first issue of the first published work by Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Bronte, issued in 1846 as Poems, by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell. Michael Holland had also obtained ten copies of the second issue of 1848, three of which have the rare errata slip tipped in.

David Esplin's continuing interest in the history of printing and in bibliography led to the acquisition of many private press books for the Library, frequently in the field of English literature. One example is the Nonesuch Press edition of Dickens' works, published in twenty-three volumes in 1937-38. Each copy of the set contained an original wood block or steel engraving for one of the illustrations used in the first editions. The Library's set, acquired in 1972, contains the wood block for an illustration by H.K. Browne ("Phiz") used in Barnaby Rudge. In the spring of 1982, while acting Chief Librarian, David Esplin made time to pay what was to be his last visit to a favourite antiquarian bookselling firm -- Oak Knoll in New Castle, Delaware, and acquired a large number of English bibliographical works and "books about books". In the same year he also supported the purchase of a beautiful collection of works published at the Doves Press by T.J. Cobden-Sanderson, including works by Tennyson, Carlyle, Keats, Shelley, Milton, and Ruskin; works by Spenser published by the Ashendene Press in 1923 and 1924; and a fine copy of William Morris' huge poetical romance, The Earthly Paradise, printed in eight volumes at Morris' own Kelmscott Press from 1895 to 1897. The condition of these volumes in their limp vellum bindings with ribbon ties was, as always, superb.

Items displayed:

Jane Austen. Emma: A Novel. London: John Murray, 1816. 3 v.
First edition in original boards. Acquired May 1966.

Charles Dickens. Little Dorrit. With illus. by H.K. Browne. London: Bradbury and Evans, 1855-1857.
Issued in 20 monthly parts from Dec. 1855 to June 1857. Acquired in January 1966.

William Blake. Poetical Sketches. London: 1783.
First published work by the poet. One of only twenty-three recorded copies. Bound by Sangorski and Sutcliffe, London. Acquired in January 1966.

John Donne. Poems, by J.D., with Elegies on the Author's Death. London: M.F. for J. Marriot, 1635.
Second edition containing thirty-seven additional poems and a portrait of the poet aged 18. Design binding by Rivière. Acquired in April 1968.

James Boswell. The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D. vol. 1. London: Henry Baldwin for Charles Dilly, 1791.
A fine uncut copy of the first edition in original boards. Acquired in September 1968.

From the library of Michael Holland. Acquired in 1974.

Charlotte Bronte. Poems, by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell. London: Aylott and Jones, 1846.

----------. London: Smith, Elder and Co., 1846 [1848]
First and second issues of the first edition of the first published work by the Bronte sisters. Second issue has errata slip indicating corrections to text.

The Second Book of the Rhymers' Club. London: Elkin Mathews, 1894.
This copy belonged to James Bertrand de Vinchelés Payen-Payne, who asked many of the contributors to autograph the preliminary pages with a poem.

Letter from W.B. Yeats to Payen-Payne, dated 1928, explaining his choice of poem for the Rhymers' Club volume.

Letter from Ernest Dowson to Victor Plarr, editor of The Second Book of the Rhymers' Club, ca. 1894, enclosing a poem for that collection and mentioning his forthcoming dinner to meet Verlaine.

Manuscript of a poem "Ursulines of the Perpetual Adoration", by Ernest Dowson.

Ernest Dowson. Dilemmas; Studies and Stories in Sentiment. London: Elkin Mathews, 1895.
Dowson's own copy in which he recorded the places he visited from 1895 to 1899.

Letter from David Holland to Mrs. Collis, May 6, 1974, discussing the sale of his father's library to David Esplin.

William Morris. The Earthly Paradise. vol. I. [Hammersmith, Eng.] Kelmscott Press, 1896. Acquired in 1982.

K. Martyn.

CASE IV: CANADIAN LITERARY MANUSCRIPTS

When David Esplin joined the staff of the Library, the Rare Books Department under Marion Brown had already instituted a policy of collecting Canadian literary manuscripts. A substantial collection existed, based on a significant group of Lampman and Scott holdings. There were growing collections of such authors as Raymond Souster, Gwendolyn MacEwen, John Newlove, Leonard Cohen and Mazo De la Roche, as well as many collections of historical importance. During David Esplin's career, the collections continued to expand. Because of the limitations of space in this exhibition, it is possible to mention only a few of the collections in which he took a personal interest.

The New Play Society and the Dora Mavor Moore Collections

The first Canadian "personality" whom David Esplin encountered shortly after his arrival in Toronto in 1966 was Dora Mavor Moore. As he later remarked, he felt that his knowledge of Canada had suddenly exploded when he visited Mrs. Moore in her 1815 log house and fell under the spell of her compelling voice and presence. Autographed photos of Leo Tolstoi and W.B. Yeats hung in the hall; the living room was furnished in a blend of grandeur and bohemianism. The lady herself was the embodiment of the Canadian theatre world where she played a leading role from 1910 till the closing of her New Play Society shortly after Esplin's visit. From this visit was to come the Library's greatest Canadian theatre resource, the New Play Society Papers. This was followed in 1977 by the gift of Dora Mavor Moore's private papers, presented on the occasion of Marion Brown's retirement as head of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.

When Dora Mavor Moore founded the New Play Society in 1946, inspired by the example of the National Theatre of Ireland, she was determined to produce as many indigenous Canadian plays as possible. The second Canadian play produced under the auspices of the New Play Society was Morley Callaghan's To Tell the Truth. Staged first at the Royal Ontario Museum Theatre in January 1949, To Tell the Truth moved to the Royal Alexandra Theatre for the week of February 7-11, the first Canadian play to achieve this distinction.

Items displayed:

Part of the script of Morley Callaghan's To Tell the Truth.

Photograph of Gerry Saracini, Marie Lisle, and Donald Harron in To Tell the Truth, taken at the Royal Ontario Museum Theatre.

Page from an article in The Montreal Standard, March 19, 1949.

Programme from the Royal Alexandra Theatre.

Publicity for the production from The Evening Telegram.

The Earle Birney Collection

The acquisition of the Library's first literary manuscript collection of real magnitude arose from a visit paid by David Esplin and Marion Brown to Earle Birney's office on St. George Street in 1969. Earle Birney, then as now, one of Canada's leading poets, genial and urbane, entertained his guests with vignettes from his career and made a lasting impression on Esplin. Birney was later to speak with amusement and respect of Esplin's flair for driving a bargain.

The importance of the Birney Collection cannot be overestimated. As the papers of a powerful and established author, it has great research value; and as the record of the effect of one man's influence, extending far beyond the boundaries of Canada, on several generations of writers, it is invaluable.

Items displayed:

Photograph of Earle Birney mountain-climbing in B.C.

A typescript of David with the author's corrections.

Pageproofs of the published edition.

Author's copy of David and other poems, published by Ryerson in 1942. With decorations by Thoreau Macdonald. Contains numerous notes by the author.

The Ernest Buckler Collection

While David Esplin enjoyed the cut and thrust of the business deal, there can be no doubt that he also enjoyed the contacts with such diverse personalities as the Canadian literary world afforded.

It certainly must have been a new experience for him to find himself sitting on the floor of a Nova Scotia farm house in the autumn of 1969 beside an emotional Ernest Buckler, sympathizing with the author who was overcome with sorrow at having to part with his manuscripts. After Esplin's visit,

Buckler wrote to the future cataloguer of his manuscripts: "David Esplin... what a hell of a good fellow he is." One of the Library's most consulted collections, the Buckler papers record the lonely struggle of a gifted author whose appeal is immediate and strong.

Items displayed:

A photograph of Ernest Buckler taken in 1952, the year in which The Mountain and the Valley was published.

First draft of The Mountain and the Valley, with the author's emendations.

A telegram announcing that Holt will publish the novel.

The Mountain and the Valley, published by Holt in 1952.

W.A. Deacon's review of The Mountain and the Valley. The Globe and Mail, Nov. 29, 1952.

The Mavis Gallant Collection

The papers of this distinguished expatriate writer form a most welcome recent addition to the Canadian manuscript collections. While Mrs. Gallant's initial offer was made to Professor Germaine Warkentin of the English Department, it was David Esplin who cemented the arrangements for this most generous gift and acknowledged the receipt of each lot of manuscripts. He even added his own copies of published versions of her short stories to the collection.

Several papers, theses and at least one book are under way, based in part on the recently acquired collection.

Items displayed:

Page from The Montreal Star, Sept. 15, 1979, hailing the publication of From the Fifteenth District.

Typescript of The Late Homecomer, a short story submitted to The New Yorker in 1971. The New Yorker did not publish it until 1974, and it was collected in From the Fifteenth District in 1979.

From the Fifteenth District, published by Macmillan of Canada in 1979. Open at The Late Homecomer.

Master proofs of From the Fifteenth District.

R. Grover.

CASE V: THE LIBRARY OF THE REVEREND JAMES FORBES

In 1966, his first year at the University of Toronto, David Esplin was able to negotiate the purchase of a large and unique collection of sixteenth and seventeenth century books -- at the time the largest single acquisition of early printed books in the history of the Library. The collection, consisting of some sixteen hundred books and pamphlets, was formed in the seventeenth century by a dissenting English minister, James Forbes, and was bequeathed to his congregation on his death in 1712. Three years afterwards a conflict between Calvinists and Arminianists split the congregation and the library was taken by the seceders who established themselves as the Southgate Congregational Church. Amazingly, the collection remained intact throughout the succeeding centuries, although sadly neglected and sustaining both fire and water damage. At last, the Trustees of the Southgate Church, realizing the value of the books and needing funds to repair their chapel, indicated their willingness to part with the library provided that it be kept together as a unit in an institution where it could become available to scholars.

James Forbes was born near Aberdeen probably in 1629, educated at the University of Aberdeen, incorporated M.A. at Oxford in 1654 and, in August of that year, was licensed by Oliver Cromwell as one of the lecturers at Gloucester Cathedral. For six happy years he preached the Gospel to a growing number of the faithful and built up a congregation which remained loyal to him despite all vicissitudes. At the Restoration of King Charles II in 1660 he refused to conform to the Church of England despite complimentary offers from the Bishop of Gloucester and others, and was ejected from his lectureship. Nevertheless he continued preaching and was twice imprisoned, the second time for a year. By 1663 he was in London, the retreat of so many of the ejected ministers, where he worked as a shoemaker, all the time spied on by government agents as a suspicious person and instigator of trouble. He survived the Plague and the Fire though both apparently raged about his home. In 1672, when King Charles issued his Declaration of Indulgence, Forbes was able to return safely to Gloucester. The period of relief, however, lasted for less than two years. Parliament refused to countenance the Declaration and Charles was forced to withdraw it as illegal. Further persecutions were piled upon the Dissenters and Forbes suffered as much as any. Then he found sanctuary at Enfield in Middlesex and remained "wonderfully hid" for five years, exercising his ministry. In 1687 he was able finally to return to his congregation at Gloucester, and the last years of his life seem to have been the most peaceful as worship became increasingly freer under William and Mary. A meeting house was built in Barton Street in 1699 and he augmented his income by instructing theological students. James Forbes died on May 31st 1712 and was eulogized by John Noble of Bristol in his funeral sermon as "Our Elijah".

James Forbes was a Calvinist and followed the "congregational way" all his life but his library is remarkably broad in scope. Naturally, theological works, especially sermons, predominate but almost all denominations are represented. There are also pamphlets showing his interest in the history of the period in which he lived, some medical and scientific books and a number of school texts which indicate another source of income during the lean years. The very existence of the collection testifies to the tenacity and

courage of its collector who, despite persecution and imprisonment for nonconformity, still managed to keep his books together and to add to their number throughout his long life. In each volume he wrote his initials and the motto "Suprema optima. Fugit hora. Ora labora. Spe expecto" (The highest and the best. Time flies. Pray and work. I wait in hope.)

Items displayed:

Heinrich Bullinger. Sermonvm Decades Qvinqve. Londini: Excudebat H. Middletonus, Impensis R. Newberij, & H. Iaksoni [1587]

As a Calvinist Forbes would be expected to include in his library works of the Swiss reformers. Heinrich Bullinger was one of the most influential and, with others, drew up the creeds for the Reformed Churches. His sermons maintain the doctrine of civil obedience and as such were highly acceptable to Elizabeth I during whose reign this London edition was printed.

Richard Baxter. Reliquiae Baxterianae, or, Mr. Richard Baxter's Narrative of the Most Remarkable Passages of His Life and Times. Faithfully publish'd from his own original manuscript, by Matthew Sylvester. London: T. Parkhurst, J. Robinson, J. Lawrence, and J. Dunton, 1696.

In many ways the life of Richard Baxter paralleled that of Forbes in that both were dissenters and both were persecuted. Baxter, however, remained a moderate all his life and struggled in vain to reunite the various factions and the Church of England, urging toleration for everyone. As well as being an outstanding preacher he was also a prolific writer. Despite ill-health he found time to write one hundred and sixty-eight books of which Forbes collected sixty-one. This autobiography was put together posthumously by Matthew Sylvester, a fellow pastor, who had first to sort out masses of loose papers. The Reliquiae forms a most valuable source for the history of seventeenth century nonconformity.

James Forbes. Pastoral Instruction: Being Some Remains of the Reverend James Forbes. London: J. Clark, and G. Harris, bookseller in Glocester, 1713.

Forbes published very little himself but this small pamphlet contains three of his own writings and the sermon preached by John Noble at his funeral on June 3rd, 1712. A Farewel-Letter of Advice to His People gives some autobiographical details including his trials and tribulations and concludes with an obviously necessary admonition against schism which his congregation did not take to heart.

A memorial stone to Forbes is to be found in the cloisters of Gloucester Cathedral.

A group of five anti-Quaker pamphlets:

John Gilpin. The Quakers Shaken, or, A Warning against Quaking. London: Printed by S.G. for S. Waterson, 1655.

Joseph Kellet, Christopher Feake and others. A Faithful Discovery of a Treacherous Design of Mystical Antichrist Displaying Christ's Banners ... Containing an Examination of Many Doctrines of the People Called Quakers. London: T. Brewster, 1655.

Daniel Dyke. The Quakers Appeal Answer'd. London: P. Parker, 1674.

Henry Winder. The Spirit of Quakerism, and the Danger of Their Divine Revelations Laid Open. London: J. Harris, 1696.

Samuel Young. The Foxonian Quakers, Dunces, Lyars and Slanderers, Proved out of George Fox's Journal and Other Scriblers. London: W. Marshal, and J. Marshal, 1697.

The dates of printing indicate how abreast of religious controversy Forbes remained throughout his life. The Society of Friends, founded by George Fox in 1647 and commonly known as Quakers, were the most persecuted of any of the seventeenth century nonconformists, their doctrines bringing them into conflict with all the other denominations as well as with the Church of England. Their refusal to take any oath as being contrary to the law of God and their insistence on their right to meet openly meant imprisonment for many, heavy fines for others, loss of their goods and even transportation. An immense amount was written against the Quakers, and the zeal and bitterness of the dispute is indicated by the vehemence of the titles.

Jeremiah Burroughs. The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment. London: Printed by P. Cole, 1650.

The Puritan preachers are well represented in Forbes's library. A member of the Westminster Assembly, Jeremiah Burroughs was one of the few non-Presbyterians following, like Forbes, the "congregational way". In 1641 he was appointed to preach at seven a.m. each day at Stepney and was dubbed by the regicide, Hugh Peters, the "morning star" of Stepney, his fellow preacher, William Greenhill, being the "evening star".

Thomas Goodwin. Certaine Select Cases Resolved: Specially Tending to the Comfort of Beleevers, in Their Chief and Usuall Temptations. London: Printed by M.F. for R. Dawlman, 1647-1650.

A leading Puritan, Goodwin gained considerable eminence as a preacher and frequently preached before the House of Commons. He was one of Oliver Cromwell's chief advisers and was present at his death-bed. At the Restoration he retired from public life and devoted himself to teaching and writing.

John Owen. The Doctrine of Justification by Faith through the Imputation of the Righteousness of Christ, Explained, Confirmed, & Vindicated. London: R. Boulter, 1677.

The doctrine of justification by faith and thereby freedom from sin exercised many of the seventeenth century theologians and Owen was one of the most learned and respected of the nonconformists. He had been Vice-Chancellor of Oxford under Cromwell, was one of the "Triers" who established the fitness of all candidates for livings and lectureships, and was consulted by Cromwell on matters relating to church and state. His status changed little at the Restoration, though he had done his best to dissuade General Monck from restoring the monarchy, and the respect in which he was generally held won him immunity from persecution. He acted as adviser to Charles II on how to achieve toleration and wrote many books on controversial and religious subjects.

John Edwards. The Preacher: A Discourse Shewing, What Are the Particular Offices and Employments of those of That Character in the Church. London: J. Robinson, J. Lawrence, & J. Wyat, 1705.

Although a conformist, John Edwards, like Forbes, was Calvinistically inclined. Industrious, learned and fair in controversy, he wrote some forty books but is now chiefly remembered for his attacks on John Locke. The presence of this volume in Forbes's library shows that Forbes maintained his interest in preaching and the pastoral office to the end of his life.

A. Jocz.

CASE VI: THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The Jason A. Hannah Collection of the History of Medical and Related Sciences is the most extensive special collection in the Fisher Library and consists of approximately 10,000 books, manuscripts and pamphlets. The basis of the collection was acquired originally for the Associated Medical Services Inc. by Dr. Hannah, who served as the organization's president until his death in 1977. Most of the books purchased by Dr. Hannah had been formerly in the collections of the London Medical Society which decided to deposit its most valuable books and manuscripts in the nearby Wellcome Historical Library. Duplicates were put up for sale and were purchased en masse by Hannah in 1966. In 1974 David Esplin successfully negotiated with Hannah for the transfer of the collection to the University of Toronto and for the provision of additional funding for future acquisitions.

The Hannah collection encompasses a wide range of medical topics from the fifteenth to the twentieth centuries and has been supplemented by the acquisition of other medical collections and by the purchase of individual items with funds provided by the Hannah Foundation. In recent years collections of works in obstetrics, dentistry and psychoanalysis have enriched the Hannah collection, making it without doubt one of the leading medical

collections on the continent. Some of the more important landmarks in the history of medicine are included in this exhibition.

Items displayed:

Hippocrates. Aphorismorum Hippocratis sectiones septem, ex Franc. Rabelaesi recognitione. Lyon: S. Gryphius, 1545.

Galen. Dissectionis venarum arteriarumque commentarium. Paris: S. Colinaeus, 1526.

The two most important medical personalities of antiquity were Hippocrates and Galen. Revered by his contemporaries and by succeeding generations, Hippocrates is regarded as the "father of medicine". He was responsible for removing medicine from the realm of superstition and theurgy, and for investing it with a scientific spirit and ethical ideals. Hippocrates taught that disease, far from being a manifestation of divine displeasure, was a natural process, its symptoms being the reaction of the body to physical disturbances. The function of the physician was merely to aid the natural forces of the body, and to this end Hippocrates stressed the importance of a complete physical examination of the patient.

Of the numerous writings attributed to Hippocrates, the best known are the Aphorisms, which were regarded as the quintessence of Hippocratic medicine. Hippocrates' clear, precise aphorisms attempt to establish the real relationship between the general and the specific. The Aphorisms, extant in over one hundred Greek manuscripts, were widely read well into the period of the printed book and are to be found in numerous editions, most of them in small pocket-size formats, enabling the medical student to carry his copy about with him. On display is a Latin version, edited by the celebrated French poet and physician François Rabelais. The book, published in Lyon in 1546, is open at the first and perhaps most famous aphorism: vita brevis, ars vero longa.

Galen was the greatest Greek physician after Hippocrates, but unlike his illustrious predecessor who relied on exceptional powers of observation, Galen was an experimentalist. Galen's writings mark the culminating point of ancient medicine, and his influence prevailed right up to the time of the Renaissance. Unfortunately for medicine the self-assured Galen had a tendency to undermine the value of his work by dogmatic speculation, submitting each experimental observation to philosophical (Aristotelian) or teleological proof. As an anatomist Galen was certainly accomplished, yet there are numerous errors in his anatomical writings that were not rectified until Vesalius set anatomy on a new course. Galen's speculations on the arteries and veins were also frequently wrong and it was not until Harvey that his errors were finally corrected. Displayed is Galen's short treatise on the dissecion of arteries, veins and nerves in a handsome edition printed at Paris in 1526 by Simon Colinaeus.

Girolamo Fracastoro. Syphilis, sive morbus gallicus. Verona: 1530.

Scientist, geographer, astronomer, physician, musician and poet, Girolamo Fracastoro was a true Renaissance man. Among his contributions to medical

science was his anticipation of the role of microbes in the spread of contagious diseases. But he is chiefly renowned as creator of the word "syphilis". When the "morbus gallicus"was ravaging Europe in the early part of the sixteenth century, Fracastoro composed a mock heroic poem in Latin hexameters describing the course of the disease and its treatment in the story of an imaginary shepherd named Syphilus, who is afflicted with the disease. The poem became very popular and was issued in many editions and languages, and its title, Syphilis, became universally accepted as the name for the disease. Besides its unquestionable medical significance, Fracastoro's poem has considerable literary merit and a sophisticated underlying philosophy of nature.

Andreas Vesalius. De humani corporis fabrica. Lyon: I. Tornaesius, 1552.

When Vesalius began studying medicine, Galenic anatomy prevailed in the schools of Europe. Galen, who had been rarely able to carry out dissections on human corpses, was obliged to rely on animal subjects, and much of his anatomy was based on the assumption that animal and human anatomy was essentially the same. By the sixteenth century when restrictions of human dissection had been eased, post mortems of human subjects were common practice in most medical schools in Europe. Vesalius therefore was able to dissect numerous cadavers and correct many of Galen's errors. De humani corporis fabrica, first published at Basel in 1543 when Vesalius was only 29, presents a complete anatomical and physiological study of every part of the human body, based on first-hand examination and on Vesalius's five-year experience as public prosector in the medical school of the University of Padua. The work is divided into five books, dealing with bones and muscles, blood vessels, nerves, abdominal viscera, thoracic organs and the brain. The first edition of Fabrica is a handsomely printed volume with magnificent woodcut illustrations of the muscles and skeleton articulated in striking dramatic poses. The importance of Fabrica, which inaugurated a new era in anatomy, was immediately recognised and many editions and plagiarisms of the work appeared in the ensuing decades. Shown here is a rare and unusual edition in a small format, published in two volumes at Lyon in 1552.

Ambroise Paré. Deux livres de chirurgie. Paris: André Wechel, 1573.

Paré acquired his surgical expertise on the battlefields of sixteenth-century France. His surgical treatises relate principally to the treatment of various kinds of wounds sustained in conflict. Among his achievements was his successful campaign against cauterizing wounds with burning oil, a procedure that was both dangerous and cruel. Paré re-introduced the ligature in amputation, and invented several surgical instruments, popularized the truss, and introduced artificial limbs.

Paré flouted medical tradition by writing his medical treatises in the vernacular instead of the customary Latin. The first part of this work deals with obstetrics, the second part with monsters, a topic in which Paré seemed to have a curious interest, and wounds of the nerves.

William Harvey. Exercitatio anatomica de motu cordis et sanguinis in animalibus. Rotterdam: Arnold Leers, 1648.

Harvey's short treatise, Exercitatio anatomica de motu cordis et sanguinis in animalibus, has been called the single most important medical work ever

published. In it Harvey conclusively demonstrates the true nature of the circulation of blood. He describes the function and action of the heart as a pump, the expulsion of blood and the filling of the arteries during systole, and the passive refilling during diastole. Harvey's description of the valves of the veins finally corrected Galen's false notion of pores in the ventricular septum.

De motu cordis was as revolutionary for the scientific method it employed as for the conclusions it reached. The application of physics and mathematics to medicine created a new era in medical research by providing a mechanical explanation of vital phenomena. Descartes was influenced by Harvey's discovery, which he discusses in Discours de la méthode, in elaborating his own mechanistic physiology.

First published in 1628 in Frankfurt, De motu cordis has been published in many editions and languages, several of which are in the Library's possession. The small format edition on display was published in Rotterdam in 1648.

Rene Descartes. De homine. Leiden: F. Moyardus, 1662.

Better known for his philosophical pursuits, Descartes made an important contribution to medicine with his De homine, considered to be the first significant textbook on physiology. De homine is in fact a physiological appendix to the Discours de la méthode (1637), and is an integral part of Descartes' philosophy. Completed in 1633, De homine was supressed following the condemnation of Galileo, and was not published until 1662, after Descartes' death. The work first appeared in Latin, translated from the original French manuscript by Florentio Schuyl.

Influenced to some extent by William Harvey's treatise on the circulation of blood, Descartes expounds a mechanistic view of physiology, according to which the organs of the body are compared to machines and are directed by a rational soul located, according to Descartes, in the pineal gland. It was Descartes' mechanistic approach rather than any specific discoveries that were to prove influential in experimental physiological medicine during the latter part of the seventeenth century.

René Théophile Hyacinthe Laënnec. De l'auscultation médiate. Paris: J.-A. Brosson et J.-S. Chaudé, 1819.

Auscultatory percussion — the evocation of sounds in the chest by tapping with the fingers -- was introduced into diagnostic medicine by the Austrian pathologist Leopold Auenbrugger (1722-1809) in 1761. However, it was not until 1806 when Napoleon's physician, Corvisart, advocated its use, that percussion became firmly established as an indispensible procedure in physical examination. To Laënnec, one of Corvisart's pupils, belongs the distinction of inventing the stethoscope, an instrument that amplified the sounds of the chest. In his De l'auscultation médiate, first published in Paris in 1819, Laënnec describes his invention which evolved from a roll of stiff paper to a more refined wooden tube applied to one ear. Laënnec's work became the foundation of modern diagnosis of chest diseases by mediate exploration, and their treatment. Ironically, Laënnec whose instrument greatly assisted the detection of pulmonary tuberculosis himself succumbed to the disease at the age of 45.

Florence Nightingale. Notes on Nursing: What It Is, and What It Is Not. London: Harrison [1860]

The name of Florence Nightingale is synonymous with the development of professional nursing. After receiving her basic training in Germany and France, she entered the service of the barracks hospital at Scutari during the Crimean war, where her exploits in reducing the sufferings and mortality rate among the wounded have become legendary. On her return to England she established a training school for nurses at St. Thomas's Hospital in London in 1860.

The opening of the nursing school coincided with the publication of Miss Nightingale's Notes on Nursing. Written simply and lucidly, the slim volume reflects the intelligence, efficiency and administrative abilities of its author. It emphasises the conditions necessary for good nursing: hygiene, ventilation, warmth, nutrition, careful observation and encouragement of the patient.

Joseph Lister. "On a New Method of Treating Compound Fracture, Abscess, etc.; With Observations on the Conditions of Suppuration". In The Lancet (six papers published between March 16 and September 21, 1867).

Joseph Lister is honoured in the history of medicine as the leading pioneer in antisepsis. Dismayed by the alarming mortality rate resulting from traumatic and post-operative sepsis in hospitals, Lister was determined to eradicate the pathogenic effects of air-borne germs which he believed were the cause of sepsis. This belief was bolstered when Lister became acquainted with the researches by Louis Pasteur into fermentation and putrefaction. In order to protect wounds from sepsis Lister cleaned the affected area with a solution of carbolic acid and covered the wound with a dressing soaked in the acid. The surgeon's clothing, hands and instruments were also treated with the solution. This method was successfully used in August 1865 and was described in a series of cases published in The Lancet between March and September 1867. By the close of 1867 Lister was able to declare that his wards at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary were entirely free from hospital sepsis. Although Lister's methods are no longer employed, he had the satisfaction of witnessing the universal acceptance of the principle of antisepsis during his own lifetime.

Wilhelm Röntgen. Eine neue Art von Strahlen. 3. Aufl. Würzburg, 1896.

While conducting experiments into cathode rays in 1895, Wilhelm Röntgen discovered quite accidentally that shadows of solid objects and a fluorescent light could be produced on a paper screen coated with barium platinocyanide situated several feet away from the enclosed cathode tube. Röntgen further found that this light passed more readily through the soft parts of the hand than through the bones, and that the shadow of bones and tissues could be captured on a photographic plate. Although essentially a phenomenon of physics, the implication of this discovery for medicine has been enormous both directly in diagnosis, and indirectly in radiotherapy. Röntgen's discovery was announced to the Würzburg Physical and Medical Society in December 1895 and was promptly published by the Society in a pamphlet entitled "Ueber eine neue Art von Strahlen". Four subsequent editions appeared in 1896.

Because Röntgen could not identify the origin of his "new type of rays", he called them "x-rays" by which name they are still referred to in English; they are known as "Röntgen rays" in many languages.

Sigmund Freud. Die Traumdeutung. Leipzig: F. Deuticke, 1900.

Freud completed the composition of Die Traumdeutung, considered to be his most important work, by 1896, but it was not until 1900 that the book was finally published. Die Traumdeutung has become the cornerstone of the psychoanalytical movement, and formulates such theories as the libido, the erotic nature of dreams, the "Oedipus complex", and other concepts basic to the discipline. In elaborating the wish-fulfillment theory, Freud provides detailed accounts and interpretations of dreams, mainly his own. According to Freud, in the open conscious wishes of our daydreams unpleasant subjects are suppressed, only to be released from the subconscious in sleep. Freud continually revised the text of Die Traumdeutung for succeeding editions.

P. Oldfield.

CASE VII: HISTORY OF SCIENCE

The works in the history of the physical sciences displayed in this exhibition belong to several discrete yet complementary collections acquired largely through the efforts of David Esplin; they are the general science collection, and the collections arranged around such central figures as Bacon, Galileo, and Einstein. The extensive collection of the works of Sir Francis Bacon was acquired by the University in 1973 from Ravenstree, a firm of antiquarian booksellers in Arizona. Both the Galileo and Einstein collections have been acquired gradually since 1968 from Stillman Drake, Emeritus Professor of the University of Toronto, whose outstanding collection in the history of science has been on deposit at the Fisher Library since 1967. The collections continue to grow, making the University of Toronto one of the foremost centres in North America for the study of the history of science.

Items displayed:

Francis Bacon. Of the Proficience and Advancement of Learning, Divine and Humane. London: H. Tomes, 1605.

----------. Instauratio magna: Novum organum. London: J. Bill, 1620.

Francis Bacon's Instauratio magna was conceived as a monumental plan for the re-organization of scientific method through the systematic classification of knowledge and the introduction of the inductive method. This massive undertaking was to be divided into six parts, but the plan was never realized in full.

The Advancement of Learning was intended as the first part of Instauratio, and was to encompass Bacon's scheme for the division of the sciences. The book as it appeared in English in 1605 provided a survey of the state of knowledge in the early seventeenth century, and articulated many of the precepts that Bacon was to develop in more detail in Novum organum, the second part of Instauratio and Bacon's most celebrated work. Written in Latin, Novum organum was to provide the key to Bacon's entire system for the re-organization of knowledge. Bacon envisaged knowledge as a pyramid, with natural history as the base, physics as the middle, and metaphysics at the apex. Acutely aware of the limitations of Aristotelian and scholastic methods, Bacon insisted that the sciences be experimental and factual rather than speculative and philosophical. Syllogistic reasoning was to be replaced by a critical induction based on experimental testing, according to which the scientist was to proceed from facts to general laws, instead of inferring facts from assumed general principles which had never been tested.

Bacon's works were instrumental in breaking down the barriers to knowledge imposed by the old methods, and helped put science and scientific inquiry on a completely new path.

Nicolaus Copernicus. De revolutionibus orbium coelestium, libri VI. Basel: Ex officina Henricpetrina, 1566.

The idea of a heliocentric universe had been suggested as early as the third century B.C. by several Greek philosophers, but by the sixteenth century the Aristotelian and Ptolemaic notion of a geocentric cosmos had become firmly entrenched as astronomical dogma. Copernicus abandoned this scheme by placing the sun at the centre, with the earth rotating daily on its own axis, orbiting the stationary sun annually in common with other planets. This theory is propounded in De revolutionibus orbium coelestium, completed in 1530, but published only in 1543 at Nürnberg, thanks largely to the efforts of Copernicus' friend Georg Joachim Rheticus. Copernicus is said to have seen a copy of his great book on the day of his death, May 24, 1543. A second edition, displayed here with the marginal annotations of Philipp van Lansberge, was issued at Basel in 1566. The work, however, remained relatively obscure, and it was not until Kepler and Galileo advocated the theory that the notion of a heliocentric universe became widely accepted among scientists.

The implications of the "Copernican revolution" were manifold and far-reaching. It seriously challenged the prevalent philosophical and theological conceptions of the earth as centre of the cosmos. The Church at first ignored the issue, but in 1616 it reacted by proscribing the teaching of the Copernican hypothesis.

Johann Kepler. Astronomia nova. Prague: 1609.

Copernicus' heliocentric interpretation of the universe was essentially a mathematical reinterpretation of the Ptolemaic system, but the theory fell short of providing a satisfactory account of the seemingly erratic motion of the planets. Copernicus, like Ptolemy, believed that planetary orbits described perfect circles, yet certain anomalies remained unexplained by this theory. Johann Kepler, availing himself of the mass of astronomical data

assembled by the Danish scientist, Tycho Brahe, attempted to determine the true movements of the planets and to discover the mathematical and physical laws controlling them. The result of Kepler's endeavours was the formulation of the three principles of planetary motion. The first principle, establishing the elliptical orbit of the planets, with the sun as one focus, and the second, concerning the equal areas of the ellipse swept out by the radius-vector between sun and planet during equal periods of time, are stated in Kepler's most important work, Astronomia nova, published at Prague in 1609. The third law, which established the proportional relationship between the square of the period of a planet's orbit to the cube of its distance from the sun, is to be found in Harmonices mundi (1619).

Galileo Galilei. Sidereus nuncius. Frankfurt: 1610.

----------. Dialogo ... sopra i due massimi sistemi del mondo tolemaico, e copernicano. Florence: G.B. Landini, 1632.

----------. Discorsi e dimostrazioni matematiche, intorno à due nuove scienze. Leiden: Elsevir, 1638.

In 1609 while working on the theory of motion, Galileo heard of a device, invented in Holland, that could make distant objects appear close. He immediately put aside his work on motion and constructed a telescope of his own, which after some improvements was suitable for astronomical use. Galileo's startling celestial observations which he describes in Sidereus nuncius, mark the first scientific use of the telescope. Among Galileo's discoveries was the highly irregular surface of the moon, thought until then to be a perfect sphere. His illustrations of the moon's seas, craters and mountains form the first lunar atlas. Another set of observations relate to four of the satellites of Jupiter discovered by Galileo. The planet-like behaviour of the satellites, illustrated in sixty-four diagrams, was a powerful confirmation of the Copernican system. Sidereus nuncius was published at Venice in March 1610 and caused great excitement. A second edition, shown here, was published at Frankfurt the same year.

Dialogo ... sopra i due massimi sistemi del mondo tolemaico, e copernicano, though not Galileo's greatest contribution to scientific knowledge, is his best known work. Historically it was instrumental in demolishing the religious and academic impediments to the advancement of science, but above all it is remembered as the work which provoked Galileo's trial and house imprisonment. The Dialogo is written in the form of a dialogue between a spokesman for Copernicus on the one hand, and a defender of Ptolemy and Aristotle on the other, who try to convince an educated layman of the truth of the "world systems" they uphold. Although Galileo does not openly support the Copernican view, it is quite clear where his sympathies lie. More than any other work, Dialogo established the heliocentric system as scientific fact.

Galileo completed Dialogo in 1630, hoping to have it published in Rome by the Lincean Academy. Advised that his book would be refused the Roman imprimatur, he returned to Florence to negotiate its publication there. Dialogo finally appeared in March 1632 and was immediately a great success. But in October 1632 an order was issued to stop printing and Galileo was

summoned before the Inquisition to answer charges of having violated an injunction of 1616 prohibiting the propagation of the Copernican hypothesis. Forced to recant, Galileo was placed under virtual house arrest for his remaining years.

While under house arrest Galileo turned to questions of physics that had occupied him intermittently throughout his life, in particular the theories of falling and projectile bodies, and the strength of materials. The result of these investigations was the Discorsi e dimostrazioni matematiche, intorno à due nuove scienze, Galileo's last and scientifically most important work. Written partly in Italian, partly in Latin, Discorsi takes the same form as Dialogo with the same interlocutors. The manuscript was smuggled to Holland and was published in the free city of Leiden in 1638 by the celebrated printing house of Elzevier.

The great significance of Discorsi lies in Galileo's demonstration of the utility of mathematics in physical investigations, in contrast to Aristotelian physics in which mathematics played no part. In analyzing bodies in motion Galileo proceeded from definitions and axioms to mathematically deduced theorems that were subject to experimental verification and in so doing, laid the foundations of modern physics.

Isaac Newton. Philosophiae naturalis principia mathematica. London: J. Streater, 1687.

Newton, born in the year of Galileo's death, built on the pioneering scientific work of Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, Hooke and others, and on the mechanical philosophy of Descartes, to bring the scientific revolution of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to its highest achievement. The law of universal gravitation, first defined in Newton's great treatise Philosophiae naturalis principia mathematica, published by the Royal Society in 1687, provided conclusive proof of the physical unity of the cosmos, and demonstrated for the first time that a single mathematical law could explain and measure the motion of terrestrial as well as celestial phenomena. Based on Newton's three laws of motion and inertia, the law of universal gravitation states that every particle of matter in the universe attracts every other particle with a force that is proportional to the product of their masses, and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between their centres. Applied to planetary motion, the law of universal gravitation provided eloquent and conclusive confirmation of the theories of Copernicus and Kepler.

Newton's work in mechanics became the cornerstone of modern physics. His system reigned supreme for two centuries, and it was not until the beginning of this century, when Einstein formulated his theory of relativity, and Planck his quantum theory, that Newtonian physics were seriously challenged.

Albert Einstein. Die Grundlage der allgemeinen Relativitätstheorie. Leipzig: J.A. Barth, 1916.

In 1905 Einstein postulated a series of theories in five papers published in the leading German physics journal, Annalen der Physik, that forever changed

man's view of the universe. His theories of relativity, developed in these papers, represent a profound advance over Newtonian physics and created completely new concepts of space, time and gravitation. Einstein's special theory of relativity held that if the speed of light is constant, and if all natural laws are the same, then both time and motion are found to be relative to the observer. The mathematical progression of the special theory established the equivalence of mass and energy, according to which the energy E of a quantity of matter with mass m, is equal to the product of the mass and the square of the velocity of light c. This relationship is expressed in the famous equation $E = mc^2$.

During the following decade Einstein developed his general theory of relativity, which he published as a paper in Annalen der Physik entitled "Die Grundlagen der allgemeinen Relativitätstheorie" (1916). Here Einstein postulated that gravitation was not a force as Newton had claimed, but a curved field in the space-time continuum, created by the presence of mass. He predicted that his hypothesis could be tested by measuring the deflection of starlight as it travelled close to the sun during a total eclipse. In November 1919 calculations made by the Royal Society during its expedition to Principe Island to observe a solar eclipse confirmed Einstein's prediction and earned the great scientist international acclaim.

P. Oldfield.

CASE VIII: CHARLES DARWIN

David Esplin first met Richard Freeman during one of his trips to London in the early 1960's. Freeman's outstanding collection of the works of Charles Darwin had been used as the basic source for his Bibliographical Handlist, published in 1965. In 1967 Freeman was pursuaded by Esplin to sell his collection to Toronto and it became the core of what is now the most extensive collection of the published works of Darwin in the world.

The feature of the collection that made it particularly valuable for scholarly research was the number of bibliographical and textual variants of each title included, and the real significance of the collection can best be illustrated using the example of the publishing history of The Origin of Species.

On June 18, 1858, Darwin's work on what he called "my large book" was interrupted by the famous communication from Alfred Russell Wallace. It contained a virtually exact statement of Darwin's own theory of evolution by natural selection. Darwin submitted Wallace's paper to Lyell and Hooker and asked for their advice concerning how he should handle a potentially awkward situation. In what must be one of the most notable cases of cooperation rather than competition in announcing scientific discoveries it was decided that Darwin should assemble an outline of his own theory and the two should be submitted jointly to the Linnean Society by Lyell and Hooker. Thus Darwin's first published announcement of the theory of evolution appeared, as part of the joint paper, in volume III, number 9, pages 45-62 of the Journal of

the Proceedings of the Linnean Society of London, Zoology. Darwin's contribution consisted of two short pieces: Extract From an Unpublished Work of Species ... and Abstract of a Letter ... to Prof. Asa Gray ... dated Down, September 5th, 1857.

The Darwin/Wallace paper had been read to the Linnean Society on the evening of July 1st, 1858 and there then developed considerable pressure on Darwin to write and publish a complete statement of his theory of natural selection as quickly as possible. Accordingly, he began work on the book, which he still thought of as an "abstract", on July 20th 1858. It soon developed into a substantial work which John Murray accepted for publication in April 1859. By June 14th Darwin was reading proofs, in which he made extensive corrections, a process he was to continue through all six editions.

On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection; or, The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life was published November 24, 1859. Contemporary accounts gave rise to the oft-repeated statement that an eager public bought up the whole first issue of 1250 copies on the first day, and, although this claim is not strictly true, the book was very popular for a difficult scientific work. It was widely read and hotly debated, for the theory of natural selection it proposed could be universally applied to man as well as to plants and animals. Humans were thus placed in a relationship to all other living things that shook traditional scientific and theological beliefs to their very foundations.

The type from which the first edition was printed was not completely reset until the sixth edition (1872). The printers considered each edition as a working revise and only reset as much as was necessary to incorporate the revisions; thus the work, for the first thirteen years of its existence, was in a state of almost continuous revision. The physical extent of the changes made between editions is well illustrated by the example of the fifth edition. Between the fourth edition (1866) and the fifth (1869) 178 sentences were dropped, 1770 sentences were re-written and 227 sentences were added. Changes were not confined only to the edition revisions. Darwin was able to make small changes, usually altering only single words and punctuation, between each issue or 'thousand'. The eleven separate issues, from the first to the eighteenth thousand, thus all contain textual alterations. The third edition (1861) contained a table of 'Additions and corrections to the second and third editions' and 'An historical sketch of the recent progress of opinion on the origin of species'. There appears in the sixth edition (1872) a 'Glossary of the principal scientific terms used in the present volume', compiled by W.S. Dallas. The sixth edition of 1872 was considered for many years to be the definitive text; however, the 1876 printing, called the 'eighteenth thousand', has slight textual changes, which establish it as the final text as Darwin left it. The word 'evolution' does not appear in Origin until the sixth edition. Origin has been translated into at least twenty-nine languages, the first being that of H.G. Bronn into German (1860). The first American edition was published by Appleton in New York in 1860 and there are four Appleton printings of that year, the fourth of which contains some notes by Darwin which are not included in the second English edition of the same year.

The effects of Darwin's basic concept of natural selection continue to be felt and it has directly influenced biological research. Its total effect, however, is perhaps more pervasive because Darwinian theories have been

applied to almost every sphere of human activity, from linguistics to sociology.

This collection contains all the variant editions, impressions, states and issues, including one which may be unique. The collecting policy expressed as "building on strength", in which David Esplin fervently believed, has resulted in the Library acquiring, whenever possible, the few variants missing from the Darwin Collection. Recently a copy of Origin dated 1859 but containing most of the the textual revisions of the second edition of 1860 appeared on the market. We were fortunate enough to secure this rarity, mentioned by Freeman but seldom seen, and thus another small gap in the collection has been filled. We have also attempted to acquire all the translations of Darwin's works, in whatever language. The huge mass of Darwiniana (the works of Darwin's predecessors, contemporaries and disciples discussing evolution and the enormous critical literature engendered by the theory of natural selection) presents a constant and exciting challenge in collecting.

Items displayed:

Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. "On the Tendency of Species to Form Varieties ..." in Journal of the Proceedings of the Linnean Society of London. Vol. III, No. 9 (1858) pp. 45-62.
Charles Darwin. On the Origin of Species ... London: John Murray, 1859. First edition.

----------. On the Origin of Species ... London: John Murray, 1859. Second edition, first issue.

----------. On the Origin of Species ... London: John Murray, 1860. 'Fifth Thousand' i.e. second edition, second issue.

----------. On the Origin of Species ... New York: D. Appleton, 1860. First American edition.

----------. Uber die Entstehung der Arten ... Stuttgart: E. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagshandlung, 1860. First German edition.

----------. O Proiskhozhdenii Vidor ... St. Petersburg: Glazunova, 1864. First Russian edition.

Samuel Wilberforce. Bishop of Oxford. "Darwin's Origin of Species" in The Quarterly Review, vol. 108, no. 215 (July 1860) pp. 225-264. An early attack on the Origin.

Thomas Henry Huxley. Evidence as to Man's Place in Nature. London: Williams and Norgate, 1863. First edition. The most important early defense of the Origin.

[Rorison, Gilbert] The Three Barriers: Notes on Mr. Darwin's "Origin of Species". Edinburgh and London: Blackwood & Sons, 1861. An early attack on the Origin.

R. Landon.

WEST READING ROOM

CASE I: YELLOW-BACK COLLECTION

The yellow-back was a phenomenon of Victorian publishing that first appeared in the 1840s and survived almost until the First World War. Its development coincided with the opening of the first railway station book stalls, and it was directed at the wider reading public that resulted from the spread of education in the nineteenth century. Like the modern mass-market paperback it had an eye-catching illustration on the cover that frequently promised more than the book could deliver. The back cover and endpapers contained advertisements for products such as macassar hair oil and Pears' soap. Publishers of yellow-backs included such well known firms as Routledge, Ward Lock, Chatto & Windus, and Smith Elder, and many important illustrators got their start designing yellow-back covers.

In 1975 the Library had the opportunity to buy a collection of some four hundred yellow-backs from the Edinburgh firm of John Updike, and David Esplin did not hesitate to act. This collection was remarkable for its very fine condition, unusual in surviving copies of this rather fragile form of book production. The books had been the property of the Reverend Walter Scott, a Presbyterian minister in Stirling in the late nineteenth century, and had remained in his family until they came on the market in the 1970s. In many of them he had recorded when and where he had bought them and his views of the author and his work. The collection no doubt reflects his reading tastes--it is particularly strong in James Grant's novels about Highland regiments -- but it is fairly representative of yellow-back publishing as a whole. Fiction predominated: the works of early writers, such as Fielding, Smollett, and Scott, and French and Russian classics in translation, as well as the popular novelists of the day, now largely forgotten. Some of the first detective fiction also appeared in this format. Non-fiction yellow-backs included natural history, hobbies, recreation, and travel. Both the original form of the yellow-back -- glazed paper over boards -- and the later form in paper wrappers are represented in the collection.

For the modern reader yellow-backs provide an immediate and vivid contact with Victorian tastes and reading habits. Though seldom of textual significance, they are an important part of nineteenth-century publishing history. The Reverend Walter Scott would doubtless be surprised to find his private collection now housed in a research library; yet a biographical sketch in The Stirling Sentinel Portrait Gallery (1897) concluded, "Mr. Scott is understood to be much interested in the study of Bibliography, and believes that subject destined to occupy in future a more prominent place than it has hitherto taken in the annals of literature."

E. Hulse.

WEST READING ROOM

CASE II: BIRDSALL COLLECTION

The firm of Birdsall and Son had its beginnings in 1792 when William Birdsall purchased the small bookbinding business of John Lacy in Northampton, England. Under William Birdsall and his son James, the firm expanded and moved into new premises.

In the 1840s Anthony Birdsall, great-nephew of the founder, bought the business and with his son, Richard, made it into one of the better known firms in the trade. Besides doing the standard bindings which the general public requested, the firm now specialized in relieures-de-luxe and restoration work of a very high order. In 1870, in order to handle the increasing business, Richard built a new three-storey building, which in turn had to be enlarged. After the death of Richard Birdsall in 1909, business continued to thrive under his sons. In the 1920's, Birdsall and Son had agents in London and New York to handle commissions for binding. However, the Second World War took a heavy toll. As Britain struggled to recover from the ravages of war, the demand for fine bindings declined, as did the number of skilled binders and finishers. In 1961 the factory closed its doors, being at that time the oldest firm in Northampton, with an international reputation for fine bindings and restoration work.

In 1968, David Esplin was able to purchase from Anthony Birdsall (1877-1972), the last head of the firm, a collection of over 3000 finishing tools. These are in constant use in the Fisher Library Bindery, and have been described in a pamphlet published by the University Library. Mr. Birdsall at that time presented the Library with the Birdsall Book of Rubbings, a record of work done by the firm between 1840 and 1845.

Since acquiring the tool collection the Library has collected a number of books bound by the Birdsall Company. These show examples of bindings, from plain to elaborate, in a wide variety of styles. Additional rubbings made by Anthony Birdsall and a collection of photographs of bindings executed by the firm were acquired in 1983.

Items displayed:

Robert of Gloucester. Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle. Oxford: Printed at the Theatre, 1724 [London: Reprinted for S. Bagster, 1810] 2 v. Bound by W. Birdsall.

Birdsall & Son. [Birdsall Book of Rubbings. Northampton: ca. 1840-1845]

F. Timbury, London. [Catalogue of Bookbinders' Finishing Tools. London, 1830]

Reproductions of two drawings by George Clark of Scaldwell showing All Saints Church, Northampton, ca. 1835 and ca. 1840.

Portraits of William, Richard and Anthony Birdsall, reproduced from the British Bookmaker.

Facsimile reproduction of the letterhead of William Birdsall (ca. 1800)

Isaak Walton. The Complete Angler. London: W. Pickering, 1836. 2 v. Bound by Birdsall.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Wilhelm Meistner's Apprenticeship and Travels. London: Chapman & Hall, 1891. 3 v. Bound by Birdsall & Son.

Alfred, 1st Baron Tennyson. Poems by Two Brothers. London: Printed for W. Simpkin and R. Marshall, 1827. Bound by Birdsall & Son.
On loan from Victoria College Library.

Plan showing front elevation of the premises of Messrs. Birdsall & Son, 1883. Reproduced from the Builder.

Photographs from the Birdsall collection showing relieures-de-luxe executed by the Birdsall firm.

Facsimile reproduction of a 1905 advertisement for Birdsall & Son, Northampton.

Tool impressions catalogue, produced in 1972, containing inked impressions of all the individual pieces in the Birdsall tool collection.

Emrys Evans and Rachel Grover. The Birdsall Collection of Bookbinders' Finishing Tools. Toronto: University of Toronto Library, 1972.

Rubbings from a collection made by Anthony Birdsall (1877-1972) from sixteenth-century books in various libraries. Many show restoration work by the Birdsall firm.

E. Evans.

EAST READING ROOM

CASE I: SHELDEN AUSTRALIAN COLLECTION

As a native of New Zealand, David Esplin had a life-long interest in the Western Pacific, though it was seldom expressed in actual library acquisitions. Nonetheless, when a Toronto collector offered a fine collection of Australiana to the University in 1982, Esplin saw an opportunity to fill a large gap in the Library's collections with a single stroke. The collector, William Leslie Shelden, was born in Melbourne, Australia, in 1898. After service in the First War on the Western Front, followed by formal training as an engineer, he emigrated to Canada in 1926. Over the next half-century, during a career in which he was by turns an engineer, a singer of grand opera, an army officer, and a much-beloved character actor, William Shelden assembled an extensive collection of books and artifacts from his native Australia. The historical and cultural parallels between Australia and Canada are many, and may henceforth be studied with profit here at Toronto by means of the Shelden Collection of Australiana, which includes approximately 1500 books, maps, prints, medals, coins, and trade tokens.

Modern Australia's origins were somewhat sordid. With the loss of England's American colonies as a dumping ground for "colonists", her gaols were soon overflowing. Admiral Arthur Phillip (1728-1814) was appointed Governor of New South Wales, and in 1787-8 led the "First Fleet" of convicts to settle "in a wilderness with few and imperfect tools and a host of broken men to use them." Concluding that Botany Bay was unsuitable for permanent settlement, Governor Phillip directed the settling of Sydney Cove, named in honour of the Home Secretary, and from this small settlement grew Australia's premier city. Phillip's account of his expedition and the foundation of the colony, published in 1789 as The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay with an Account of the Establishment of the Colonies of Port Jackson & Norfolk Island, aroused world-wide interest, and was translated into several foreign languages.

The most famous governor of the new colony was Captain William Bligh, of Mutiny on the Bounty fame. Among the many Bligh items in the collection is Bligh's Voyage in the RESOURCE from Coupang to Batavia together with the Log of His Subsequent Passage to England in the Dutch Packet Vlydt and His Remarks on Morrison's Journal (London: Golden Cockerell Press, 1937). After being put to sea in the launch of the Bounty by Fletcher Christian and his mutineers, Bligh and the loyal crewman sailed thousands of miles to the Portuguese island of Timor, in what was one of history's great feats of seamanship. The log of Bligh's voyage from Timor to Batavia, capital of the Dutch East Indies, is represented here in this magnificently illustrated edition. Other Golden Cockerell books in the collection include logs of Bligh's voyage in the Bounty's launch and of Matthew Flinder's pioneering circumnavigation of Terra Australis.

George Barrington, née Waldron (1755-1804) was a Dublin-born pickpocket who for his crimes was transported to Sydney in 1791. After allegedly helping to quell a mutiny during the voyage, he was "conditionally emancipated" by Governor Phillip in 1792, and soon became Chief Constable and

Superintendent of Convicts at nearby Parramatta. In 1803 An Account of a Voyage to New South Wales was published in England under his name, although it appears to be a compilation from the works of Phillip and others.

Australia offered many challenges to explorers both by sea and by land. Rear-Admiral P.P. King (1791-1856) surveyed and charted long stretches of the Australian coastline from the leaky cutter Mermaid, and her successor, Bathurst. In 1821 he published his Narrative of a Survey of the Intertropical and Western Coasts of Australia, Performed between the Years 1818 and 1822, illustrated with his own drawings. Charles Sturt (1795-1869) was born in India and served as an infantry officer in the Napoleonic Wars (including service in Canada in 1814). Sent to Australia to guard convicts, Sturt was greatly taken by the new country, and became the greatest of her inland explorers, leading a series of expeditions that resulted in his discovery and naming of both the Darling and Murray Rivers. The Sheldon Collection contains the second edition of his account of his discoveries: Two Expeditions into the Interior of Southern Australia ... 1828, 1829, 1830 and 1831 (London: 1834). Sir Thomas Livingstone Mitchell (1792-1855) was another Napoleonic War veteran, and one who followed in the footsteps of Charles Sturt. As Surveyor-General of New South Wales he threw himself into the challenging task of exploring and surveying the still largely unknown interior of the Australian continent. In 1838 he published his account of his explorations, entitled Three Expeditions into the Interior of Eastern Australia with Descriptions of the Recently Explored Region of Australia Felix, and of the Present Colony of New South Wales (London: 1838). Mitchell's success, described in this work, brought him much admiration and eventually a knighthood.

Most early immigrants to Australia travelled under duress. The links and parallels between Australia and Canada are perhaps nowhere better illustrated than in the experiences and memoirs of the one hundred and forty-one Canadian rebels transported to Australia for their part in the 1837 Rebellion. Nine of the transported rebels wrote accounts of their exile; eight of these very rare narratives are in the collection, and three of them are exhibited here. They have been very appropriately bound by Michael Wilcox: the first two in beaver, the third in kangaroo.

Louis Léandre Ducharme. Journal d'un exile politique aux terres australes. Montréal: F. Cinq-mars, 1845.

Daniel Heustis. A Narrative of the Adventures and Sufferings of Captain D. Heustis and his Companions in Canada and Van Dieman's Land during a Long Captivity. Boston: Published for Redding & Company by Silas W. Wilder & Company, 1847.

Stephen Smith Wright. Narrative and Recollections of Van Dieman's Land during a Three Years' Captivity of Stephen S. Wright, by Caleb Lyon. New York: J. Winchester, New World Press, 1844.

The discovery of gold at Ballarat in 1851 stimulated mass emigration to Australia, which had theretofore been considered fit only for convicts and sheep. Among the gold-seeking free settlers who arrived from England in 1853 was collector William Shelden's great-grandfather. The gold-rush also

generated a large literature, aimed primarily at potential immigrants. In the Shelden Collection is an amusing work edited by John Sherer, entitled The Goldfinder of Australia, How He went, How He fared and How He Made His Fortune (London, 1853), which was first published in twenty-four one-penny parts like a mid-Victorian novel, and was re-issued at least twice as a book.

Australia also generated her own fictional literature, which from an early date employed and celebrated the colonial setting, with its unique flora and fauna. John Graham, poet, novelist, and "sometime minister of the Pitt St. Congregational Church Sydney", was the author of Lawrence Struilby; or, Observations and Experiences during Twenty-Five Years of Bush-Life in Australia (London: 1863). This is an Australian Bildungsroman written in a narrative form, with extracts from journals and letters, which Graham intended "to illustrate the formation of character in new and strange scenes". The story traces the adventures of a young Ulster lad who emigrated to Australia.

"Rolf Boldrewood" was the pseudonym of Thomas Alexander Browne (1826-1915), one of Australia's most popular and prolific novelists. Born in England and raised in Australia, Browne was a failure as a farmer, and so turned to public service as a police magistrate and gold fields commissioner. An admirer of Sir Walter Scott, Browne took his pen name from a passage in Scott's Marmion: A Tale of Flodden Field (1808):

> And that Red King, who, while of old
> Through Boldrewood the chase he led ....

He produced a long series of short stories and novels. One of the best known is Robbery under Arms; a Story of Life and Adventure in the Bush and in the Goldfields of Australia, 3 v. (London: 1888). "Definitely Australian in origin and action", this work romanticizes Australian life during the gold-rush era. The 'triple-decker' first edition, exhibited here, is very rare.

Fergus Hume (1860-1932) was born in New Zealand, where he studied for the bar. Deciding to settle in Melbourne, he first tried his hand as a dramatist, later turning to writing genre fiction. His first novel, The Mystery of a Hansom Cab, published in 1886, scored an international success, and sold hundreds of thousands of copies. Exhibited here is one of the collection's two 'Yellow-back' copies, published in London by A.P. Marsden in 1893, in the characteristically coloured wrappers. Copies of printings below the 100th thousand are rare, and only one copy of the very first edition survives. Although Hume, who later moved to England, wrote altogether about 140 novels, some quite successful, he never again achieved the success of his first, which was dramatised, satirized, and very widely reprinted.

One of the many British writers who passed through Australia was Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894) whose restless voyages through the South Seas in search of improved health were recorded in a series of letters published in periodicals. One such letter was an indignant defense of the missionary, Father Damien. Entitled Father Damien; an Open Letter to the Reverent Dr. Hyde of Honolulu (Sydney: 1890) it was privately printed for Stevenson in an edition that may have been as small as twenty-five copies and is now exceedingly rare. This copy was presented by Stevenson to his American publisher, Charles Scribner, and has corrections in the author's hand and the franked and addressed cover bound in.

Above all, the Shelden Australiana Collection is rich in the records of the people of Australia, both aboriginal and European, and contains valuable primary sources for the study of Australian anthropology and social history. An example is Karl Sofus Lumholtz' Among Cannibals; an Account of Four Years' Travel in Australia and of Camp Life with the Aborigines of Queensland, translated by Ramus B. Anderson (New York: 1889). The author spent four years in Australia (1880-3) collecting specimens for a Danish university, and instituted research into the customs and anthropology of the then little-known aboriginal tribes. Originally written and published in Danish, this book was very popular and was translated into English, Swedish, French, and German.

In the wake of the explorers, settlers spread to all of the habitable regions of Australia. Among the numerous accounts of pioneering, or "squatting" life is Harriet W. Daly's Digging, Squatting, and Pioneering Life in the Northern Territory of South Australia (London: 1887) which describes early settlement in the tropical northern districts of Australia.

The Sheldon Collection also contains prints, maps and artifacts. A small selection is displayed:

Engraved portrait of Captain James Cook (1728-1779).

The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, IV: 178 (Sunday, August 10, 1806).

> Printed by George Howe, a convict who bore the title of "Government Printer", this was Australia's first newspaper. Begun in 1803, it was often suspended for lack of paper, or because of discord in the colony -- as it was during the rebellion against Governor Bligh from August 30, 1807 to May 15, 1808. The issue displayed announces the arrival of Governor Bligh.

Two plates entitled "The Dance" and "Warriors of New South Wales" from John Heaviside Clark's Field Sports &c. &c. of the Native Inhabitants of New South Wales (London: 1813).

Two playbills from the Theatre Royal, Sturt Street, Ballarat for performances on 10 & 14 August 1863.

Plate entitled "Gymnorophina leuconota" (Magpies) from John Gould's The Birds of Australia (London: 1840-1848).

An assortment of nineteenth-century Australian merchants' bronze trade tokens.

> These were issued to ameliorate the perennial shortage of small change. More than one hundred and seventy types have been recorded after 1849 for the State of Victoria alone. Such tokens remained legal tender in Australia until 1863.

M. Distad.

EAST READING ROOM

CASE II: EX LIBRIS DAVID G. ESPLIN

After David Esplin's death in 1983, a part of his private library was given by his wife, Jenny, to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Almost half of the books received were printed in the seventeenth century, many of them published by the seventeenth century London bookseller and publisher, Richard Chiswell (1639-1711). In April 1965 David Esplin presented a paper on Chiswell at a seminar on seventeenth-century English printing and publishing held at the William Andrews Clark Library, Los Angeles. When he came to Toronto he continued his research on Chiswell and continued to collect works with his imprint.

John Dunton, a contemporary of Richard Chiswell, described him thus:

> Mr. Richard Chiswell well deserves the title of Metropolitan Bookseller of England, if not of all the world. His name at the bottom of a title page, does sufficiently recommend the book. He has not been known to print either a bad book or on bad paper. (Life and Errors, 1705, p. 280)

Chiswell published mainly religious books and pamphlets, a few of which are shown here.

Gilbert Burnet. The History of the Reformation of the Church of England in Two Parts. 2nd ed., corrected. London: Printed by T.H. for Richard Chiswell, 1681.

----------. Some Passages of the Life and Death of the Right Honourable John, Earl of Rochester. London: Printed for Richard Chiswell, 1680.

Symon Gunton. The History of the Church of Peterburgh. London: Printed for Richard Chiswell, 1686.

----------. A Sermon Preached before the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in the Abby-Church at Westminister on the 5th of November, 1696. London: Printed for R. Chiswell, 1696.

----------. A Sermon Preached before the Lords Spiritual & Temporal in the Abby-Church at Westminister on the 26th of Novemb. 1691. London: Printed for R. Chiswell, 1691.

----------. A Sermon Preach'd before the Queen at Whitehall, March 1, 1689. London: Printed for R. Chiswell, 1689.

----------. A Sermon preached in the Chappel of St. James's before His Highness the Prince of Orange, the 20th of January, 1688. London: Printed for R. Chiswell, 1689.

Thomas Tenison. A Sermon Preached at the Funeral of Her Late Majesty Queen Mary. London: Printed for Ri. Chiswell, 1695.

Thomas Tenison. A Sermon against Self-love, &c. Preached before the Honourable House of Commons on the 5th of June, 1689. London: Printed for Richard Chiswell, 1689.

Three examples of nineteenth-century printers' manuals from England and France reflect David Esplin's interest in the history of printing.

John Johnson. Typographia; or, the Printers' Instructor. London: Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, Brown & Green, 1824.

> A writer on typography, John Johnson (1777-1848) was also a printer, at first with John Warwick at Lee Priory Press near Canterbury, and later a master printer in London. Typographia was printed on paper of four different sizes and thus appeared in four "issues". Volume one, mainly compiled from Joseph Ames' Typographical Antiquities (1749), is historical. Volume two has much information about the technical development of printing, and has excellent illustrations of contemporary printing presses.

William Savage. A Dictionary of the Art of Printing. London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, 1841.

> A London printer and engraver, William Savage (1770-1843) did much to improve the quality of ink used for printing engravings. He also wrote several books, of which the best known is the Dictionary.

Charles Henry Timperley. A Dictionary of Printers and Printing with the Progress of Literature. London: H. Johnson, 1839.

> Charles Timperley (1794-1846?), best known as a writer on typography, was also a printer. Bound with his Dictionary is his Printers' Manual; Containing Instructions to Learners, with Scales of Impositions, and Numerous Calculations, Recipes, and Scales of Prices in the Principal Towns of Great Britain; together with Practical Directions for Conducting Every Department of a Printing Office.

David Esplin was especially fond of eighteenth-century English literature. Included in his library were first editions of that period's most famous literary works, many in contemporary bindings, a reflection of his interest in the physical form of the book.

Henry Fielding. Amelia. London: A. Millar, 1752.

> The last of Fielding's novels, Amelia, was first published in 1751, although the date on the title page is 1752. There were two impressions of the first edition, one in December 1751, the second in January 1752. Dr. Johnson told Mrs. Piozzi, Amelia was "perhaps the only book, which being printed off betimes one morning, a new edition was called for before night." (Anecdotes of the Late Samuel Johnson, LL.D., by H.L. Piozzi, 4th ed., 1786, pp. 221-222).

Tobias George Smollett. The Adventures of Peregrine Pickle, in Which Are Included Memoirs of a Lady of Quality. London: Printed for the Author and Sold by D. Wilson, 1751.

Peregrine Pickle, Smollett's second novel, was an immediate best seller, due to the inclusion of the Memoirs of a Lady of Quality, which Frances Viscountess Vane paid Smollett to insert on her behalf. This copy, bound in contemporary calf-backed marble-paper, is in superb condition.

Jonathan Swift. Travels into Several Remote Nations of the World, in Four Parts, by Lemuel Gulliver. London: Printed for Benj. Motte, 1726.

In August 1725 Swift wrote to Charles Ford, "I have finished my Travells, and I am now transcribing them; they are admirable Things, and will wonderfully mend the World." (Letters of Jonathan Swift to Charles Ford, 1935, p. 122).

This copy of the "B" issue is bound in full contemporary calf.

E. Hajnal.

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E. Evans and T. Reid.